

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Application No. 10/067,266
Attorney Docket No. Q63212

The Yoshida et al '891 publication was published on May 15, 2003, and was filed in the United States as a national stage of PCT/JP02/00252 filed on January 16, 2002, claiming benefit of Provisional Application 60/308,855 filed on August 1, 2001, which is after the filing date of applicants' Japanese priority application JP 2001-032697, which was filed in Japan on February 8, 2001. Accordingly, applicants enclose herewith a verified translation of applicants' Japanese priority document. As can be seen from the translation, the priority document supports all of the recitations of the present claims.

In view of the above, applicants submit that the Yoshida et al '891 publication cannot be used as a reference against the present claims and, accordingly, request withdrawal of these rejections.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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